

## The 2007/2008 Application Guidebook's Changes

The 2007/2008 Application Guidebook for Enterprise Zone Designation (guidebook) represents another step in the Department's efforts to streamline the application, while also strengthening the selection process. To carry out these objectives, the guidebook will change or eliminate several features of the last designation round. It will also offer more guidance on the specific elements that can influence an application's competitiveness. The following sections describe the differences.

### Changes From the Last Guidebook\*

The new guidebook will trim or eliminate tables that:

- Required extensive data-gathering efforts that produced little to no insights on the qualifications of the applicants.
- Presented data that were either unreliable or incomparable due to the absence of a single, consistent source.
- Requested exhaustive data that did not influence the applicant's competitiveness.

### Additions to the New Guidebook

In addition to the changes from the last guidebook, the new guidebook will also introduce the following features:

- A preset table of contents that will control the organization of the application.
- Multiple checklists that will allow the applicants to more readily identify all of the required elements of the application.
- Descriptive, illustrated guidelines on the allowable boundaries of an enterprise zone.
- An opportunity to obtain preliminary approval of an applicant's proposed enterprise zone boundaries.

In combination with each other, the changes and new features presented in this guidebook should enable local communities to prepare a more cost-effective application. In addition, they should provide the local communities with more direction and clarity on the specific elements that will make their applications more competitive.